Development of Domestic Tourism

1051. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to develop the domestic tourism; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Promotion of domestic tourism is a continuous activity. The Department of Tourism, Govt. of India, has provided Central financial assistance to build tourist infrastructure such as tourist bungalows, tourist reception centres, yatri niwases, yatrikas, wayside amenities, forest lodges, toilets and pilgrim sheds.

Promotion of handicrafts and folk culture is encouraged through financial assistance to craft melas, important festivals and fairs.

For the promotion of adventure tourism activities, financial assistance has been extended to the State Governments-Union Territories for the purchase of adventure sports equipment.

Some transport facilities have been provided under central financial assistance such as mini buses, launches and catamarans.

Publicity brochures on various tourist centres have been brought out for tourist information.

Sugar Price Equivalisation Fund

1052. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether settlement of Sugar Price Equivalisation Fund accounts between the Food Corporation of India and the Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation is pending with the Union Government for clarifications;

(b) if so, the details with reasons for the delay in furnishing the clarifications; and

(c) the time by which the Accounts are likely to be settled?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c). The representation is under examination and a decision is likely to be conveyed soon.

Sugar Policy

1053. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the sugar policy;

(b) if so, the changes proposed to be incorrporated in the new sugar policy; and

(c) the time by which the new policy is proposed to be annouced?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c). Policy issues relating to sugar are reviewed as and when necessary. No, set time limit can be indicated in this regard.

[Translation]

A.I.R./T.V. Transmitters

1054. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSUMARIA :
SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of A.I.R./Doordarshan Kendras functioning at present, State-wise, location-wise and category-wise;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any survey for upgradation, expansion and modernisation and these Kendras;

(c) if so, the details thereof the amount spent on setting up and modernisation of these Kendras during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(d) the target fixed for setting up these Kendras during 1996-97;

(e) the percentage of population of each of the States likely to be convered by these Kendras, and

(f) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION ADN MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) As given in Statement -I

(b) and (c). Upgradation, expansion, and modernisation, being a continuous process, All India Radio and Doordarshan review their requiements from time to time and implement schemes based on availability of new technologies, funds and other related factors. State-wise details are given in Statement-II.

(d) During the year 1996-97 AIR expects to complete 20 Akashvani kendras whereas Doordarshan plans to set up 7 HPT projects and 6 Studio projects

(e) As given in statement-III.

(f) AIR is expected to spend approx. Rs.6160.34 lakhs whereas expenditure on Doordarshan account is expected to be Rs.340.38 crores during 1996-97.